

## National Weather Service Grand Junction, CO (970) 256-9463 weather.gov/grandjunction

## **Decision Support Briefing for SnowEx (NASA)** – 7 **February, 2017**

## Overview

- Winter Storm Warning in effect through Wednesday for the Grand Mesa where 10 to 20 inches of new snow is expected with surface winds West at 30 mph gusting as high at 60 mph. A Winter Weather advisory in effect for the San Juan mountains through Wednesday where 6 to 12 inches of new snow is expected and surface winds of 20 gusting as high a 50 mph. All mountains will be obscured in clouds and precipitation until after midnight tonight, but ceilings should begin lifting before sunrise. Moisture will erode from west to east Wednesday so improvement is expected as cloud bases rise and precipitation lessens. Flying conditions will improve first over the Grand Mesa early Wednesday morning, then over the Senator Beck area late in the morning. After a brief return to ridging and drier weather, the next storm should begin impacting the forecast area late Friday afternoon and Friday evening with layered cloud decks lowering with time. The cold front is projected to move through from NW to SE Saturday, pushing through the San Juan mountains early Saturday evening.
- Local Weather Hazards for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

Hazardous Weather Outlook

- Winter Storm Warning
- National Weather Service Forecast for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

• For the latest forecast, go to http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.027&lon=-108.02

• Tonight: Snow. Widespread blowing snow, mainly after 7pm. Low around 23. Windy, with a west wind 20 to 25 mph increasing to 30 to 35 mph after

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- midnight. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.
- Wednesday: Snow likely, mainly before 8am. Widespread blowing snow before 8am. Partly sunny, with a high near 32. Windy, with a west wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.
- Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 20. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
- Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 36. South southwest wind around 5 mph.
- Thursday Night: A 10 percent chance of snow after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 25.
- Friday: A chance of snow before 1pm, then a chance of rain and snow. Cloudy, with a high near 37. Chance of precipitation is 50%.
- Friday Night: Rain and snow, becoming all snow after 8pm. Patchy blowing snow after 10pm. Cloudy, with a low around 27.
- Saturday: Snow. Cloudy, with a high near 30.
- Saturday Night: Snow likely, mainly before midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 19.
- Sunday: A chance of snow. Partly sunny, with a high near 28.
- Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 15.
- Monday: Sunny, with a high near 34.
- Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 20.
- Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 36.
- Local Weather Hazards for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)
- Hazardous Weather Outlook
- Winter Weather Advisory
- National Weather Service Forecast for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)
- For the latest forecast, go to http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.905&lon=-107.72
- Tonight: Snow. Widespread blowing snow. Low around 18. Windy, with a west wind around 35 mph, with gusts as high as 50 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 7 inches possible.
- Wednesday: Snow likely, mainly before 11am. Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 27. Windy, with a west northwest wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

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- Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 17. West southwest wind around 15 mph.
- Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 34. West southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
- Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 24. Breezy.
- Friday: A 30 percent chance of snow after 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 34. Breezy.
- Friday Night: Snow. Widespread blowing snow. Cloudy, with a low around 23. Breezy.
- Saturday: Snow. Widespread blowing snow, mainly before 11am. Cloudy, with a high near 26. Breezy.
- Saturday Night: Snow. Areas of blowing snow. Cloudy, with a low around 12.
- Sunday: Snow likely. Patchy blowing snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 21.
- Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 12.
- Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 28.
- Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 15.
- Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 29.
- Aviation Forecast for Grand Junction Regional Airport

• KGJT 072341

- TAFGJT
- TAF
- KGJT 072341Z 0800/0824 36008KT P6SM VCSH OVC060
- FM080100 04005KT P6SM VCSH OVC050 WS020/24030KT
- FM080300 32007KT P6SM VCSH OVC040
- FM080700 30008KT P6SM BKN050 WS020/26035KT
- FM080900 30007KT P6SM BKN080
- FM081800 31007KT P6SM BKN150=
- Aviation Forecast for Colorado Springs Airport
- KCOS 072339Z 0800/0824 29025G35KT P6SM FEW080 SCT180 BKN250
- FM080300 29010G20KT P6SM SCT100 BKN250
- FM080600 32015G25KT P6SM BKN150
- FM081600 32020G35KT P6SM SCT200=
- Aviation Forecast for Centennial Airport
- KAPA 072340Z 0800/0824 29010G18KT P6SM FEW080 BKN140 BKN220
- FM080300 23010KT P6SM SCT100 BKN140 BKN200
- FM081200 27011KT P6SM FEW100 BKN120 BKN220
- FM081500 30012G24KT P6SM FEW120 SCT220

- FM081900 31018G38KT P6SM FEW130 SCT220=
- Discussion

- Grand Mesa forecast cloud levels:
- Wednesday: Below 1000 ft AGL until about 4 AM then improving to Ovc 1500-2500ft AGL. After 9 am: 2000 to 3500 ft. After 12 Noon above 7000 ft AGL.

- Senator Beck forecast cloud levels:
- Wednesday: Below 1000 ft AGL until 6 AM, then 1500 to 2500ft AGL. After 3 PM above 7000 ft AGL.

- Current PIREPs:
  - https://www.aviationweather.gov/airep/plot?type=turb@ion=SW

Current SITREPs: https://www.aviationweather.gov/sigmet

- Current radar:
  - http://radar.weather.gov/radar.php?rid=GJX&product=NCR&overlay=1110111 1&loop=yes

Current satellite: http://www.weather.gov/satellite?image=ir#ir

- For official pilot briefings, call 1-800-WX-BRIEF
- For Further Information

- Contact National Weather Service operations 24 hours a day at 970-256-9463 (unlisted)
- For specific support of emergency response incidents, request a spot forecast by contacting the NWS forecast office by phone or online.
- Online spot forecast request available at:
- http://www.weather.gov/spot/monitor/?lat=39.0293452169889&lon=-109.20392753906285&z=7

Forecaster: Christopher Cuoco

